

ABSTRACT

An object handling system for and a method of handling objects (OB) from object carriers (21) supporting objects (OB), the handling system comprising: a support platform (3); at least one carrier holder (5a-d) disposed to the support platform (3) and being configured to receive an object carrier (21) supporting objects (OB); at least one analysis station (7) at which objects (OB) are analyzed; an object handler (4) comprising a positioning mechanism (9) operable to provide for positioning in a region above the support platform (3), and a tool assembly (11) attached to the positioning mechanism (9) and being movable thereby, wherein the tool assembly (11) comprises a sensor tool (35) which, in a carrier-sensing mode, is utilized in identifying any object carrier (21) as supported by the at least one carrier holder (5a-d), and a holding tool (37) which, in an object-transfer mode, is utilized to hold an object (OB) at least in transferring the same between the at least one carrier holder (5a-d) and the at least one analysis station (7); and a control unit (139) for controlling operation of the handling system.